

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the 3rd paragraph on page 6 of the specification as follows:

One exemplary specification for extracting information from the claims data for each member of the health care plan during the focus period is described in co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/635,911, now Patent No. 7,444,291, entitled "System and Method for Modeling of Health Care Utilization," by Gerald L. Lutgen et al., filed August 10, 2000, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. In other embodiments of the present invention, other specifications known to those of skill in the art are used to extract relevant data or information from the medical and pharmacy claims for the focus period to compile the database.

Please amend the 1st paragraph of page 9 of the specification as follows:

In one embodiment of the present invention, a relative risk is calculated and assigned to each selected member. In this embodiment, the relative risk is used as one of the criteria for selecting the intervention set (block 18). In another embodiment, relative risk is used as the basis for making the initial selection, as described in block 12 of FIG. 1. The relative risk ranking is a function of the predicted future health care resource utilization for the member. The predicted future health care utilization is calculated from the claims data in the database. In one embodiment of the present invention, the cost of services provided to the member during the focus period is calculated. This number is then used as the marker for future health care utilization. In another embodiment of the present invention, the predicted future health care utilization is calculated by looking at only the claims information from the medical claims and computing a total cost of services provided during the focus period. In another embodiment of the present invention, future utilization is calculated by examining only data from the pharmacy claims and computing the total cost of pharmacy services provided during the focus period. In another embodiment of the present invention, future utilization is calculated based on chronic medical conditions only for the member during the focus period. In one embodiment of the present invention, the predicted future health care utilization is calculated using one of the techniques disclosed in co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/635,911, now Patent No.

7,444,291, entitled "System and Method for Modeling of Health Care Utilization," identified above and hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Please amend the 2nd paragraph of page 11 of the specification as follows:

In one embodiment of the present invention, CCG categories are assigned to each of the pharmacy claims. This process requires that the pharmacy claims be processed together with the medical claims in order to attach a CCG category to each pharmacy claim. In one embodiment, this is accomplished using the Ingenix Drug-Disease Matcher ("DDM") application. This application is described in greater detail in U.S. Patent Application No. ~~___/___,___~~09/571,648, filed on May 15, 2000, entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD OF DRUG-DISEASE MATCHING," by Gerald Lutgen, et al., which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.